



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK IS MAY 7-13

TOWSON, MD (May 2, 2006) -- For more than 11,500 employees of the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS), keeping communities safe is not just a goal; it's a success story 365 days a year. "I'm proud of our dedicated men and women and appreciate the tremendous effort they put forth on a daily basis," said Mary Ann Saar, Secretary of DPSCS. "This week is a chance for everyone to say 'thank you' to these public servants who do so much more than many citizens realize."

DPSCS operates 30 institutions, including 13 major prisons, but "Public Safety" is much more than "corrections." The department also supervises more than 65,000 people through its ***Division of Parole and Probation***. Critical parole decisions are made by the ***Maryland Parole Commission***. DPSCS' ***Emergency Number Systems Board*** helps maintain 911 phone systems across the state. All agencies within the Department provide important victims' services, and victims receive the court-ordered restitution they are due through the ***Criminal Injuries Compensation Board***. DPSCS trains police and correctional officers in state-of-the-art facilities at its ***Police and Correctional Training Commissions***. In addition, DPSCS is the only state agency in the nation charged with operating both the state prisons and a large city's detention centers, in this case, ***Baltimore's Central Booking and Intake*** and ***Men's and Women's Detention Centers***. DPSCS also operates the highly regarded ***Patuxent Institution*** in Jessup, which is separate from the Division of Correction prisons.

Public Safety and Correctional Employees Appreciation Week in Maryland culminates with the DPSCS annual Awards Banquet at Blob's Park in Jessup on Friday, May 12th at 10 a.m. This ceremony will feature a tribute to slain Correctional Officer Jeffery Wroten.

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